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Argentina: Labor problems may erupt into violence that could disrupt the inter-American meetings in Buenos Aires.

The General Confederation of Labor is threatening demonstrations and possible violence if the government takes it over or tries to jail its leaders in response to its announcement of a new "struggle plan" for protesting government labor policies. If violence erupts, union leaders expect the few militant Communists in the labor unions to try to direct it against the OAS meetings and specifically against the US delegation.

A strong government response to labor protests is likely, since most senior officials, including military leaders, seem to favor a tough policy within the framework of existing laws. However, President Ongania probably would like to avoid a showdown until the conferences are over.

*Ongania announced after yesterday's session of the National Security Council that the three service chiefs would be empowered to counter internal disorders with force. This move appears designed to discourage labor violence, especially during the inter-American meetings.

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